majority for the extension of the moratorium? Was not the resolution in this House withdrawn on the express understanding that reasonable palliative measures would be introduced?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—No, far from it. During the discussion on this resolution, the disabilities of judgment-debtors were alluded to by some of the Hon'ble Members, and the manner in which the instructions contained in the Chief Court Circular (II of 1109) were carried out came in for some criticism then. It was suggested on behalf of Government that a transcript of the discussion in the House on this point might be forwarded to the Chief Court for their information. The resolution was then with drawn. The representations in this House were since brought to the notice of the Judges and a fresh Circular (I of 1112) has been issued explaining the position.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*—It is far less than a moratorium. During the discussion of this particular motion, the Government have noted that a majority of non-officials were unanimous on this demand. Do the Government admit that fact?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—No,

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*— Was not a similar motion repeated, Sir, during the last Budget Session for the continuation of the moratorium?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—I do not remember.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*—Am I to understand that the Leader of the House is too short of memory?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—Some times it becomes short when it is too much taxed.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*—In a burning question like this, if the Hon'ble Member's memory is short, it is very sad.

Extension of Agricultural Moratorium—Memorial regarding.

34. **Mr. K. M. Ibrahim** *(Cranganur).*—Will the Government state what steps they have taken on the Memorial presented to them by the non-official majority of this Honourable

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House in Makaram 1111, requesting them to extend the Agricultural Moratorium?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government)*.—No such memorial has been received by Government.

35. Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen *(Kattur)*.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have taken any steps on the representation made by a majority of non-official Members of this House in Makaram 1111, to extend the period of Agricultural Moratorium?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government)*.—The Member is referred to the answer to Question No. 34.

Economic Depression—relief measures.

36. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur)*.—Will the Government state (a) the steps they have taken in furtherence of their finding, 'On account of the prevailing depression, the agriculturists in the State find it difficult to pay interest on debt incurred by them before the depression began. Owing to the precipitous fall of agricultural prices, debts incurred by Agriculturists five or more years ago on the security of their lands have now been increased by anything up to 300 per cent in term of agricultural commodities . . . . . ' contained in the Diwan's Proceedings dated 2nd March 1934, L.-6-3309/1109;

(b) what more the Government intend to do in the matter?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Diwan Peishkar)*.—(a) Some of the more important of the steps taken are the following:—

1. Generous remissions in the land revenue payable by agriculturists.

2. Provision for easy credit to rural debtors—

   (a) under the special loan scheme and

   (b) through the agency of the Land Mortgage Bank.

3. Grant of time by courts for payment of decree-debts in some cases enabling judgment-debtors to pay even in instalments.

4. Moratorium for a period to give breathing time to the debtors of this State to pay up debts.

5. Limiting of interest in future to 12 per cent.

6. Relief to the agriculturist-debtors who happen to be Kuri subscribers in various forms.

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